

Meligethes aeneus (F.) 3, *Calvia quattuordecimpunctata* (L.) 1, *Phyllotreta nigripes* (F.) 1, *Oulema melanopa* (L.) 7, *Sitona lineatus* (L.) 9, *Ceuthorynchidius troglodytes* (F.) 1, *Ceutorhynchus quadridens* (Pz.) 8. *C. quadridens* swarmed during late July 1990, and it is likely that the sacs were voided then. The conclusion is the same as that reached by Osborne & Whitehead (1988 *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 124: 232) with regard to House Martins, namely that the parent birds are entirely unselective samplers of the aerial fauna. In addition there is clear indication that, were the two species cohabiting, they would be direct competitors.

On 26.6.1990 I was able to examine the contents of a Little Owl pellet collected on Bredon Hill (SO94). This contained evidence of *Abax parallelepipedus* (P. & M.) 1, *Agonum muelleri* (Hbst.) 1, *Harpalus rufipes* (Deg.) 1, *H. affinis* (Schr.) 1, *Melanotus erythropus* (Gmelin) 1, *Agriotes acuminatus* (Ste.) 1, *A. obscurus* (L.) 1, *Stenocorus meridianus* (L.) 1, *Hypera punctata* (F.) 5. Few of the beetles listed here represent a good return on the energy expended in catching them, and the diet is probably that of an inexperienced juvenile bird. Cockchafers (*Melolontha melolontha* L.) are the principal element in the beetle-diet of nestling Little Owls in the area, and *Geotrupes* spp. are also provided. I have an interesting record of a number of adult *Procræus tibialis* (Bois. & Lac.) (a localised elaterid) from debris at the base of a Little Owl's nest (SO94, 19.6.1990).— P.F. WHITEHEAD, Moor Leys, Little Comberton, Pershore, Worcs WR10 3EP.

***Scolopostethus pictus* (Schilling) (Hem.: Lygaeidae) new to Worcestershire**

A specimen of this large, strongly-pigmented *Scolopostethus* was observed to land on my car whilst it was parked near the River Severn, Worcester (SO849547) at 15.30 hours BST on 12.x.1990. It was flying in extremely high light conditions in a temperature of 23°C.

S. pictus is generally rather rare inhabiting flood strands and cornstacks. Dr P. Kirby kindly provided information on the status and biotope of *S. pictus*, which may be locally distributed in the Lower Severn Valley.— P.F. WHITEHEAD, Moor Leys, Little Comberton, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3EP.

The Hummingbird Hawkmoth in West Cumbria.

At about 3.30pm on 28th August 1990, I observed one specimen of *Macroglossum stellatarum* fly into my garden here at Hensingham. The weather was sunny and dry with a temperature of around 70°F. The moth was very active and visited a number of herbaceous plants, and it was observed to feed in particular on the flowers of some cultivated *Campanulas*. The moth eventually left the garden after approximately six minutes.— R.W.J. READ, 43 Holly Terrace, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 8RF.